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The Unless Press

Serving Greenville, Solla Sollew, and surrounding areas.

Issue 14, November 15

Upcoming Events

11/04/12	Decoration Day in Solla Sollew. Help us decorate the town for the holidays.
11/08/12	I-Scream parlor sale. All ice cream flavors at 1/2 off. For today only.
11/16-18/12	CTN Expo. Burbank, California. Buy your tickets online before they're gone!
11/22/12	Thanksgiving Day. No "Press" issue this week.

Hearts-a-Plenty

What would you consider to be the heart of the fandom? Some might say that it's the members themselves, of whose passion for what they love drives them to create fan art, write stories, build crafts, establish friendships, and generally keep the community alive and healthy. Others, perhaps, would argue that it is the works themselves that drive us onwards and upwards. And then there are those that say that the heart... is in the ask blogs....

Ask blogs are a central part of the fandom -- the core around which many of us circulate. They are a huge part of this vast community, participating in AUs, spurring creative works of art (cosplays included), and instilling deep discussions among fans. In this issue, we pay tribute to many of the ask blogs in this ever-growing fandom of ours, from well knowns to the little guys. •

Did you know?

At least 305 ask blogs in the fandom focus on/include the character of the Once-ler alone!

~ Mind Your Qs and As ~

From the big guys to the little guys, every single ask blog is important, and in this issue we shine a light on a few of them!

- Less is More -

Just because you're not as well known doesn't mean you're less important. Let's take a look at some of the ask blogs that are often overlooked, but shine just as much as their big brothers!

Negathneed - Better known as Thneedknight's nemesis, Nega does studies on human behavior and he does it in style! When asked which behaviors he found to be the most unusual, he responded with: "I guess I could say I find interesting the conduct of following other people, usually a charismatic leader". As for whether or not he gets along with Thneedknight, he says, "We do get along. *he chuckles at this* However, being at odds is like a play for us!".

Old Once-ler - He also goes by the name of "Pappy", and is close in demeanor to that of the old Once-ler that you see in the film, albeit a bit more hospitable.

Winter-ler - A lover of snow and hot chocolate, Winter-ler resides in a white wonderland. Let's get to know him better, shall we?

Q. It gets mighty chilly in the winter! What are some of your favorite ways of warming up?

A. Well, some ways I warm up in the winter is by putting layers and layers of clothing on. I usually wear lots of sweaters and drink lots of hot cocoa! (It's good for the soul. Heh.) I also wear earmuffs to keep my ears from turning into earsicles. (See what I did there? I'm super funny, aren't I?) But my overall favorite way to warm up is to sit nearby a fireplace with a blanket wrapped around myself, with a cup of cocoa and a nice book to read. The smell of firewood and cocoa. Wow. Nothing can beat that.

Q. What's your favorite winter activity?

A. Hmm. There's so many winter activities to choose from...! But I guess if I had to choose one it'll have to be going outside and starting a snowball fight. It's just really fun to throw snowballs at people...

(cont. on pg. 3)

~ Keep the conversation riveting. ~

Qs and As - Continued

Every ask blog in this fandom has something special to offer, whether it's an engaging storyline, a memorable character, a witty personality, or eye-catching art! Which ask blog is your favorite?

... for some reason. Ah ha. But I do like playing in the snow over-all and snowboarding! But I don't snowboard as much anymore.

Florist Once-ler - Need some flowers delivered or want to send on a bouquet to a friend or loved one? Look no further than Florist Once-ler. He's always ready and willing to take your order!

Chalk Once-ler - The artist of this ask blog responds with drawings that are chalk-like in nature. It's both a unique and interesting approach.

Jack Frost-ler - Even fandom skirmishes can give birth to an ask blog in this fandom, and Jack Frost-ler is just that. His special powers include being able to both create and shape ice and snow, and when asked what his favorite winter activity is he responded with, "Probably snowball fights!"

Mischiev-ler - The mysterious Mischiev-ler has a most interesting history. Expansion of his city resulted in a hazardous green smog that engulfed the place, causing all but himself to flee and tainting his appearance to the point where a growth overtook him, rendering him half-plant... and kept alive by this most odd phenomenon. When asked if he could change his past in any way, he said: "If... I could change what-ever I want.. Well, I'd like to think of my end result more as an equation. There are some factors of which I would like to keep fixed.... For instance, it's better to have achieved success at least in some point of one's life, than to have not achieved at all. Correct? On the other hand... I really wish I didn't cause... so much suffering. And how she left... w-well, anyway, take those out of the equation and I would have had a perfect life." And when inquired if the plant-like growth was a hindrance to him he answered: "A hindrance? Of course it's a hindrance!! I mean.. dozens of times I was treated like a salad, so to speak. Just... "Hey, fellow normal Once-lers! I've got a brilliant idea. Let's go pick on the tree man. Yes, of course, trees have no feelings at all! Go ahead!" On the contrary, you gormless prats, they can suffer traumas! Bloody nora, thankfully nothing serious ever happened... other than a few ax chases once in a long while. But, despite that, I'm just trying to get by. The cold season made me turn more human again at least. That's swell.

Negathneed.

Teacup Once-ler - Teacup is a...

(cont. on pg. 5)

~ Interview - Bitter Once-ler ~

Q. You've gone through a lot in life and have lost many things. Some people would be apt to give up in such a situation. What is it that keeps you going despite the circumstances? Is there any person or thing that gives you hope for the future?

A. Thank you so fucking much for pointing out that I've lost things. I really needed to hear that. Also, I don't see how staying away in a section of my old factory and never leaving is not considered "giving up", but there's nothing left so maybe there actually isn't anything to work with okay. This question is flawed in too many ways.

Q. It's well known that you're fond of tea. --> Do you have a favorite flavor? A least favorite flavor?

A. How the hell is it "well known" that I like tea. I don't remember putting it on a billboard. Whatever. I like chamomile and green teas. I used to enjoy fruity ones, but don't anym-- How the hell is this a useful question at all? Who the hell wants to read this. I bet I can type anything I wanted here and nobody would be reading it.

Q. Listening to songs can be very therapeutic and comforting, even in the darkest of times. Are there any songs that you favor and/or that kind of help you to get through the day?

~ Ask Blog Interview - Bitter Once-ler (Continued) ~

A. I don't know why you're implying I need music to help me. I don't-- Nevermind. Yea I listen to a lot of music. I'm not going to list it all out though, so I don't fucking know. Go to YouTube and look shit up. Jose Gonzales is pretty okay I guess.

Q. If you had the opportunity to go back in time, what things would you change about your life? Would you still try to sell your thneed while being more mindful of the environment, or would you seek out some other profession entirely?

A. ...

Q. Do you have any words of advice to give to others?

A. Pretty fucking sure nobody wants advice from the Once-ler. No sir.

Bitter Once-ler is very well known to fans, having been created fairly early on, and his well-developed history and relatable personality makes him one of the most beloved ask blogs. I'd like to thank him for participating in this interview! •

Consumed... by Greed.

Friends to foes.

Many thanks go out to all of the artists whose work appears in this issue, including dezzoi, lizzie-ler, ertblug, ask-jackfrost-ler, lisasedai, and ineedathneed.

~ Qs and As - Continued ~

... tiny little Once-ler with a big heart. Cursed by the Lorax for his heinous deeds, he's shrunk down to fit in the palm of your hand.

Askthethneedguy - Thneed Guy is the Once-ler before he became a successful tycoon. The artwork provided by the moderator is some of the most charming you'll find.

Marionette Once-ler - What if the Once-ler became something of a puppet? It's an interesting twist on how he continues to be somewhat manipulated by others. Join us as we ask him a couple of questions....

Q. Despite being a marionette, do you have any sort of control over situations that you face?

A. I have control over most things. Unless someone takes my control, or my strings, and moves me around, I have free lance physically. Mentally, on the other hand, is a bit different. In a way, I have a control like on my back, on my emotions as well. If someone really, really wants for me to do something, I find it very difficult to say "no".

Q. Is there anything in life that gives you joy, no matter how dark things may seem?

A. My dolls always comfort me. They have never failed to cheer me up or calm me down.

Scaredandconfused-ler - "Scared" is just that: A bit wary. Of what, you might ask? Of all of the different versions of him floating around! "What's the big deal?" he most likely wonders, not exactly that comfortable with many, many ask blogs in existence out there.

Viking-ler - Viking Once-ler is quite cute, as is the artwork for him! But then, what Once-ler isn't adorable in some way?

Gingerbread Once-ler - With Christmas coming up soon, the birth of this ask blog is very timely!

Dearonciesdiary - This ask blog is interactive in more ways than one. You can submit an entry to the Once-ler's diary and the moderator will respond with artwork!

Wannabe Once-ler - Poor, sarcastic Wannabe wants to be a Once-ler, but isn't quite there... yet.

Consumed... by Greed.

Friends to foes.

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~ You Look a Bit Familiar ~

Some ask blogs are more well recognized than others. Here is a handful that you most likely know or have heard of in the Once-ler fandom.

Swag Once-ler - Swag is, by far, the most popular of all the Once-ler ask blogs. With thousands of followers in tow, you'd think there'd be a little pressure on him, but Swag always remains cool, cocky, and ready for action. When asked if he could meet any celebrity, he mentioned both "Chef Ramsay and Katy Perry", and his phobia is phaseolusphobia (a scientific term for the type of plant that green beans grow from).

Gentleman Once-ler - Good ol' Gent is a kindly fellow who's always will-ing to lend a hug to those in need. We were able to get a short interview with him, as well:

Q. When you're feeling down, what things do you do to cheer yourself up?

A. Well, when I'm feeling down I usually take some time off of thneed production and have some time to myself. I usually just sit alone and drink some tea, maybe plan a future event or invite a few friends over. Time heals all troubles for me.

Q. What's your favorite kind of tea?

A. I usually joke around when I am asked this question. The answer is usually to "party". And although that is slightly true, I would have to say my absolute favorite tea would have to be lapsang souchong. This black tea has a rich, smokey flavor similar to that of a *fine cigar*.

72 Once-ler - A man with much experience under his belt is '72.

Q. Do you find it difficult to rhyme, or does it come naturally?

A. It's been a natural trait since I uttered my first word, at least that's what I've heard. My family speaks in verse all the time, so it was only when I started interacting outside of the clan that I learned it was "unusual" to rhyme. Of course, biggering my vocabulary over the years has aided the flow. I've gotten so good, half the time I don't even hear myself doing it. I suppose there are times I do get hung up, though. If I concentrate too hard, or my mood's gone too far south, then not a single rhyme comes out of my mouth.

Q. Any advice you'd give to aspiring businessmen/women?

A. Go big or go home.

Entre - Dashing and headstrong, Entre is also quite popular with the ladies. He's a friend to Bitter and something of a "student" of '72, although he does have his skirmishes with other Once-lers, particularly Swag, although many may say that he's much closer to Swag than he lets on.

~ Swaggermimint ~

"Did you chop down this tree?"

Marshmallows!

Many thanks go out to all of the artists whose work appears in this issue, including dezzoi, lizzie-ler, ertblug, ask-jackfrost-ler, lisasedai, and ineedathneed.

Fan Highlight - Swaggermint

I would like to take this opportunity to shine a light on a very special member of the Once-ler fandom: Swaggermimint (whom some simply refer to as Swaggermint.) Out of all the fans in this community, she is, undoubtedly, one of the hardest working ones.

Swaggermint was the first (and, to my knowledge, the only) person to create a "masterpost" list of every single ask blog in this fandom, and she continues to update it as more and more ask blogs join the fray. This doesn't just go for Once-ler ask blogs, but for blogs that focus on Audrey, Ted, Norma, O'Hare, the truffula valley animals, the personification entities, characters from other Seuss books, and many, many more.

As the list of ask blogs grew, so did her dedication to the fandom. She is currently working on an all new blog for the fandom that hosts not just an index of every single ask blog currently in existence in the fandom, but also on links to fan fiction, AU events, confessions, and much more!

Those who have been following her since the beginning of this fandom, and even new members, are most likely aware that she has been the brains behind all three of the panty raid games, and she doesn't just organize them, but she also draws the artwork for the raids, as well!

All that Swaggermint does for this fandom is most appreciated, and I, personally, would like to thank her for bringing so much to this ever-growing fandom. We love you and all the work you do, Swaggermint!

Extra! Extra!

We have two little extra tidbits of information to report below....

"Newler" Tag - Are you looking for a way to promote your newly-birthed ask blog? Tag your ask blog's posts as "newler". It might help you get more attention.

Secret Santa - Please visit the Unite-the-lorax-fandom blog to sign up for their Secret Santa! More Christmas-themed news will be reported in December. •

Have something to say? Like the press? Send in your letters today!

What is your opinion of *The Unless Press*? Do you have a favorite article? A least favorite article? What, do you believe, could be done to improve this paper and make it more interesting? Is there something in particular you'd like to see? What do you like or dislike about the newsletter? I'd love to hear your thoughts! Send in any comments and/or questions to *The Unless Press*. Your entry may be featured!

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